Hike in air-fare

325. SHRI M. VINCENT; Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased (o state:

(a) how many times air-fares were hiked during the period from December 2, 1989 f) November 11, 1990; and

(b) what is the percentage increase in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRl HARMOHAN DHAWAN), (a) and (b) During the period December 2i 1989 to November 11, 1990, Indian Airlines has increased the domestic rupee fares on two occasions:

(i) Effective 11th April, 1990, by 15. 7 per cent to offset the steep increase in the Price of aviation turbine fuel.

(ii) Effective 26th September, 1990, by 10 per cent on account of Gulf Evacuation Surcharge.

Furthermore, with effect from 1. 7. 1990, the Inland Air Travel Tax (IATT) has been increased from 10 per cent of basic fare to 15 per cent of the total fare. This, however, is a tax levied by the Government which accrues to the Government and not the Indian Airlines.

Amendment to the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954

326. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state;

(a) whethsr Government propose to re view the administration of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 to correct lacunae; and

(b) if so, the detail's of modifications/ s made in the said Act since its in ceptions and those likely to be made; and

(c) to what extent the changes would be effective to curb the sale and of adulterated food items?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. SHAKE-ELUR REHMAN): (a) to (c) The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 has been amended thrice since its inception, i. e.
1964, 1976 and 1986. A statement outlining salient features of amendments made so far is attached. *(See below)*

There are further proposals to review the various provisions of the Act with major thrust on consumer protection.

Statement

to time

SI No.	Amendments of 1964	Amendment of 1976	Amendment; of 19S6
1	2	3	4
1.	Powers to the Central *Gcyt. to* appoint its own food inspectors and public Analysis.	(1) Definition of primary feeds which includes food of agriculture or horticulture origin in its natural form in order ihat these foods. if not. conforming to standards cf quality on account of natural factors should not be considered as rated:	The recognised consumer a ssociations been empowered to take iles of food and prose cu- in addition to individual ser who was already enioving such power.
2.	Execution of a bond by a vendor whenever an article < f r its custody: r of from two *to* one at the time of drawing samples.	(2) Establishment of more than one Central Food Laboratory	

4. Provision of a warranty by amanu- ' facturer, distributor or dealer to ; vendor;

5. The penal clause was made more deterrent by providing minimum of six mouths imprisonment which may extend to 6 years and cance- IJation of licence sequent odfence.

6. Provision of impleading the manufacturei during the trial of case, if the comt is satisfied that he is also responsible for the committance of the offence.

(3) Inclusion of five consumers' representatives on the Central Committee for Food Standards.

(4) Seizure and disposal of perishable foods, unfit for human consumption, by Local (Health) Authority; on second or sub

(5) Provision of summary trials;

(6) Provision for seizure of documents;

(7) Providing of more deterrent punishments for various offences.

Service io consumers by LPG distributors

327. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be Phased to state:

(a) the minimum and maximum number of consumers required for a LPG distributorship;

(b) the names of LPG distributors in Delhi with more than the maximum number of consumers required;

(c) whether it is a fact that tie distribu tors such as Kiran Gas Service, Khan Mar ket are not in a position to provide satisfac tory service to consumers because of heavy load of consumers registered with them; and

(d) if so, what steps Government pro pose to take to meet this situation?

THEPETROLEUM AND 'TARYHRI SATYA PRA-KASH(a) No minimum/ maximum nmmers have been prescribed for an LPG distributorship. However, pin the monthly refill n 4000 to 8000 refills has been prescribed depending on the population of the concerned town/city.

(b) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Appropriate action will be taken on receipt of the above information.

Use of Compresses Natural Gas in transport sector

328. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government propose to use compressed natural gas instead of petrol to run taxis in Bombay and Delhi to find a long term solution of the oil crisis;

(b) if so, what are the details of the u'se of compressed natural gas in the transport sector; and

(c) to what extent it will help conservation of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRA-KASH MALAVIYA); (a) Yes, Sir. This is proposed to be done on a pilot basis.

(b) GAIL has invited offers for Supply of conversion kitsinverting 5000 Passenger cars each in cities Bombay and Delhi. Besideskits compressor and dispensing units for CNG filling are also required to provide CNG filling facilities at suitable locations in Bombay and Delhi.

(c) The extent to which petrol can be substituted by CNG can be assessed only after the successful implementation of the pilot project being taken up by GAIL.